

# UNITED STATES VOLUNTEERS

Colonel Scot Buffington, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment  
Colonel Dave Childs, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment  
Colonel Chuck Young, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment  
Colonel Rick Dennis, Artillery



Colonel Mike Church, Cavalry  
Major Marcus Riddell, Sharpshooters  
Col. John Kubilewicz, Chief of Staff  
Colonel Ken Brown, Aide de Camp  
Colonel Craig Mullin, Aide de Camp

BRIGADIER. GENERAL DARRELL N. MARKIJOHN  
COMMANDING

July 26, 2016

Col. Thomas Downes  
Commander, National Regiment  
155<sup>th</sup> Bull Run

Col. Downes,

On behalf of myself and the members of the USV Brigade Staff, we commend you and your officers and men for your exemplary service this past weekend at the 155<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run. The entire Federal Army – Infantry, Artillery, and Cavalry – was superb throughout the entire weekend, in camp and especially in the field. The spirit of cooperation that we shared, and the manner in which we put it to use, allowed us to overcome all of the challenges we faced.

The weather was brutal. Yet, your leadership and the work of your regimental staff guided your men skillfully and safely through the long marches and intricate battle scenarios. I had the privilege of witnessing the expert work of the company commanders and non-commissioned officers within your ranks. They took care of their men. They did their jobs – they did it well.

I also cannot overstate how hard the Cedar Creek Foundation Board and their volunteers worked to make this event a success. They went beyond the call of duty to provide us with the additional resources we needed to overcome the heat and field conditions. They did not skimp on a single thing. And while the weather forced them to spend more on us, the heat seriously hurt the size of the crowd – the source of desperately needed funds for preservation. I believe that your organization and those under your command make donations to preservation efforts. If so, the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation needs to be high on that list for what they did for us this past weekend.

Finally, the army marched 1.8 miles on Friday, 2.2 miles on Saturday, and 1.4 miles on Sunday. It fought a small engagement on Friday, an intense battle on Saturday, and a long and historic battle on Sunday. You and your officers executed your orders to perfection. Nobody whined or complained, and unlike some, your army did not abandon the event. The *Esprit de Corps* within the entire Federal Army was conspicuous and inspiring.

I join you in how proud you must be for what your men accomplished this past weekend. Their actions gave great honor to the men that fell in the hot and humid fields near Bull Run Creek in 1861.

Please share this letter with your members. Let us hope that the positive moral that we created this weekend will carry this grand hobby forward into the future.

I am your humble and obedient servant,

Brevet Maj. General Darrell Markijohn  
155<sup>th</sup> Bull Run, Commanding